

ALL IN COLOUR - MAKES LEARNING A JOY

# Once Upon a Time

EVERY WEDNESDAY

No. 18 • 14th JUNE 1969

PRICE 1/3

## *The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse*

See page 16





# Beauty and the Beast



1. After a long ride Beauty and her father rode towards the Enchanted Castle where lived the strange Beast. Beauty gasped as they came in sight of the wondrous castle and her heart beat a little faster.



2. As they rode into the castle courtyard they heard beautiful music. But no living creature was to be seen. They dismounted from their horse and entered the Great Hall of the castle. A splendid meal was ready for them.

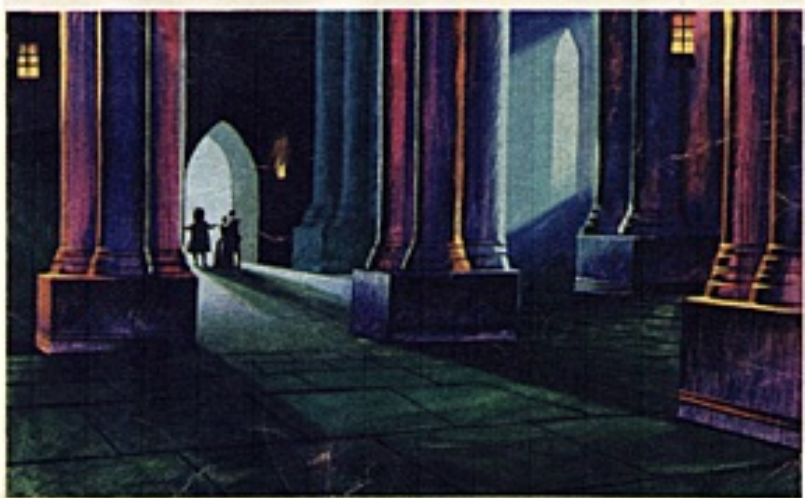


3. Weary after their long journey, they sat down before the log fire and began to eat. The merchant gazed sadly at his lovely daughter. What would become of her in this mysterious castle?

4. They had just finished their meal when there came the sound of heavy footsteps and the Beast entered the room and stood quietly, hat in hand. Beauty stared at him in fear.

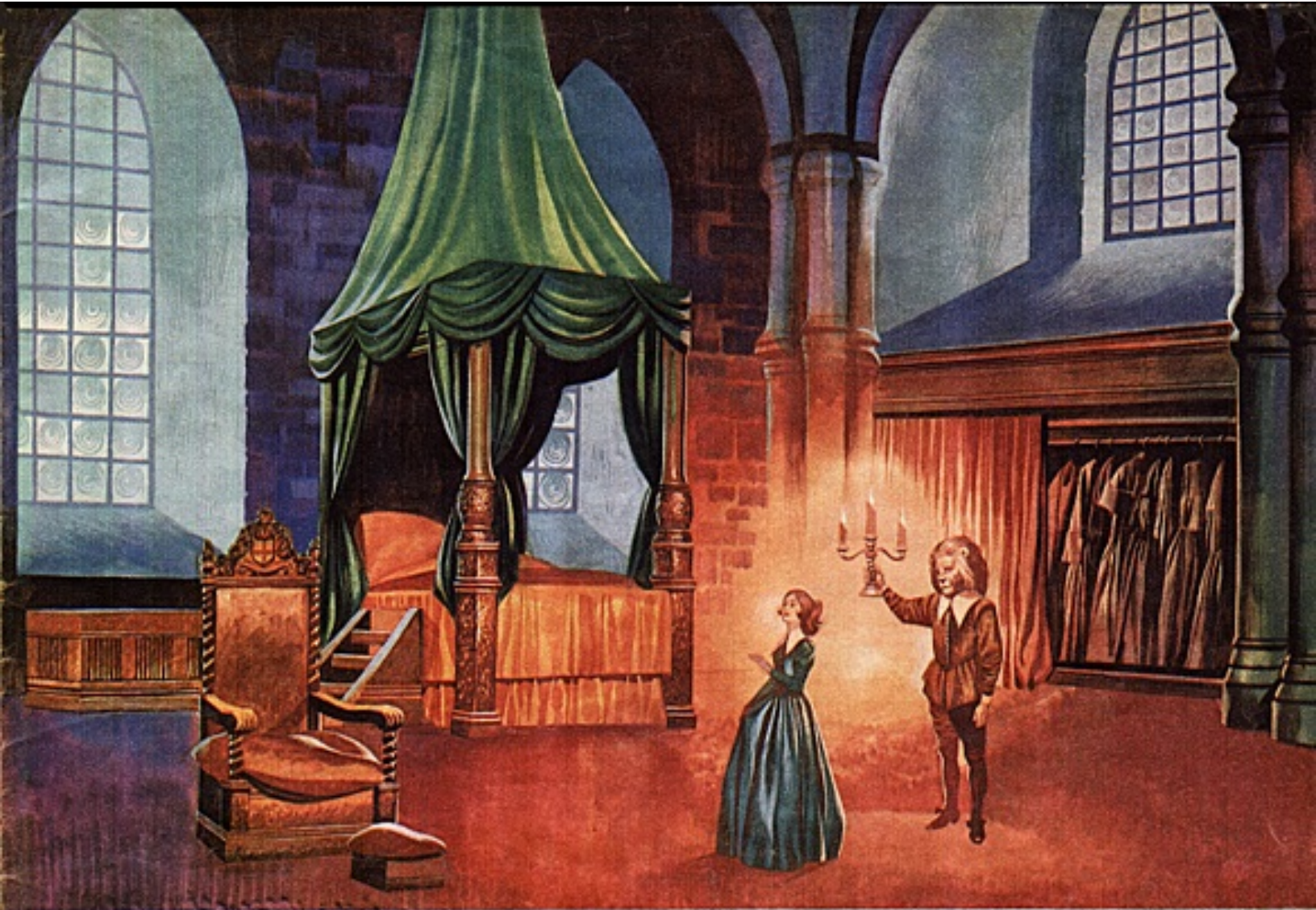


5. Beauty and her father rose to their feet and faced the Beast who put out a gentle hand. "Well, merchant," he said, "is this the daughter for whom you picked the white rose?"



6. "Yes," replied the merchant. "It was she who met me first on my return home and she is here in fulfilment of my promise." "She will come to no harm," said the Beast.





7. Then the Beast went on: "There are rooms ready for you both. Tomorrow morning, you, merchant, must depart and leave your daughter with me. But, as I say, have no fears for her safety."

8. Then he led Beauty to an enormous room with a splendid four-poster bed. "Will you not let me go home with my father?" she asked. "I'm sorry—no," he said in a gruff but kind voice.



9. Beauty and her father slept soundly, even though they were to part the next morning. When they came down to the Great Hall, another meal was laid out as usual. After they had eaten, they went out into the castle courtyard and there, saddled and bridled was the merchant's horse.



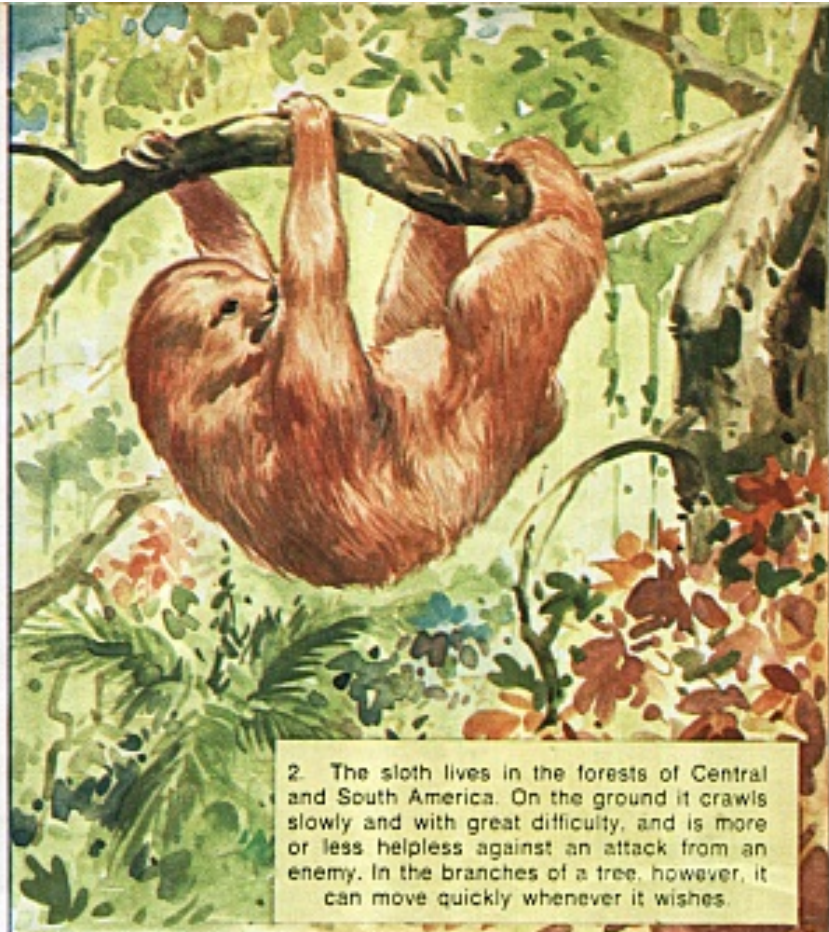
10. Beauty kissed her father again and again and promised never to forget him. Then the merchant rode away. As he turned to wave farewell, he caught sight of the Beast watching them.

Next week: The Beast asks Beauty to marry him. What will be her answer?





1. The great ant-eater lives on termites which it picks up with its long sticky tongue. It hunts for food at night and sleeps all day in any comfortable spot it can find among the bushes. It is four feet long and can be dangerous if it is attacked.



2. The sloth lives in the forests of Central and South America. On the ground it crawls slowly and with great difficulty, and is more or less helpless against an attack from an enemy. In the branches of a tree, however, it can move quickly whenever it wishes.



These are our "Allsorts" pages.  
Every week you can see all  
sorts of Allsorts. **THIS WEEK:**

# All Sorts



3. This is a cuscus, which lives in Australia. It is about as large as a domestic cat, and it has a long tail which it uses to hang on to the branches of trees. It is a slow-moving animal which lives on leaves and fruit.



4. The hippopotamus lives in Africa and spends a great deal of its time in the water, rising to the surface to breathe at intervals of about five minutes. Although hippos are normally very placid creatures they can be very dangerous if disturbed.



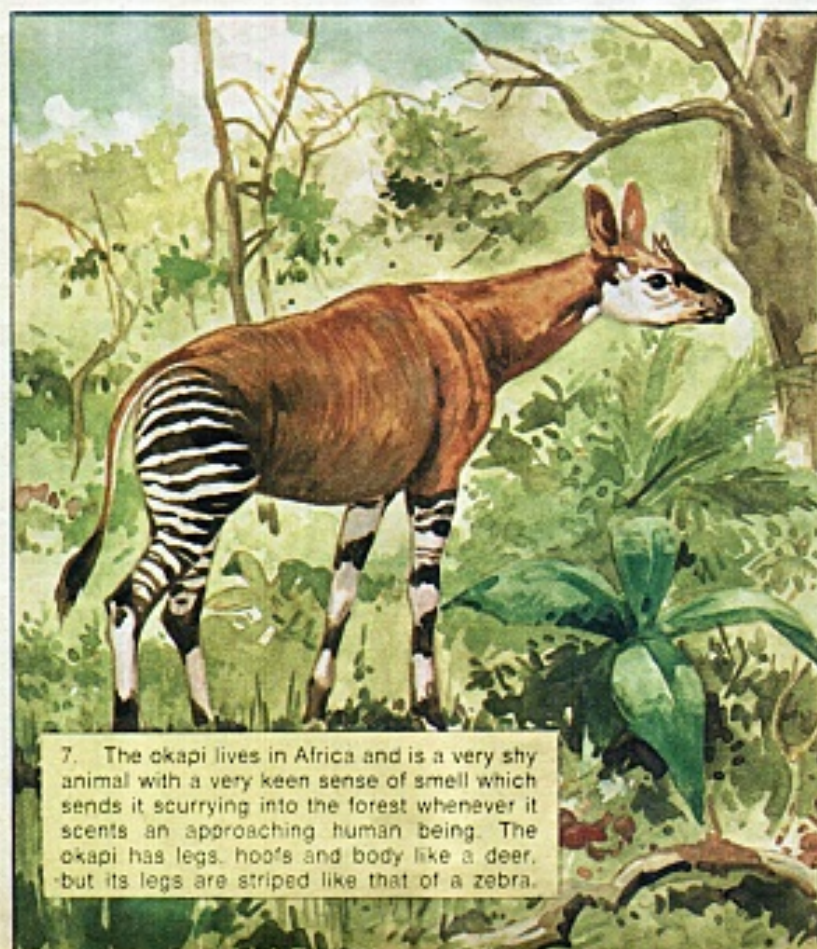


5. This Bushpig is found in the forests of tropical Africa. Bushpigs are shy creatures which come out at night to feed on roots, berries and wild fruit. It is very fond of the water and is an excellent swimmer. Bushpigs often weigh more than 200 pounds.



6. Sometimes called the desert rat, the jerboa covers the ground in a series of large bounds, sometimes traveling as much as four feet at each leap. Its hind legs are six times as long as its front ones. Size for size, this animal can leap as well as any kangaroo.

# of Strange Animals



7. The okapi lives in Africa and is a very shy animal with a very keen sense of smell which sends it scurrying into the forest whenever it scents an approaching human being. The okapi has legs, hoofs and body like a deer, but its legs are striped like that of a zebra.



8. For protection the armadillo has been provided with bony plates which give it a coat of armour against its enemies. These plates are so flexible that when it is attacked the armadillo can roll up in a tight, round armoured ball, with its head, feet and tail safely tucked in.



# BRER RABBIT

The wonderful Tar-Baby story. By Barbara Hayes

**W**ELL children, knowing how clever Brer Rabbit is, I expect you think that Brer Fox never ever stood a chance of catching him.

But there was a time when Brer Fox was smart enough to catch Brer Rabbit and he came mighty close to making him into rabbit stew, too.

It happened this way.



One day Brer Fox did some mighty hard thinking.

Then Brer Fox got himself some tar. He mixed the tar with some turpentine and he fixed up a contraption, which he called a Tar-Baby.

Then he took this Tar-Baby and he set her up by the main road.

Then he lay hidden in the bushes to see what would happen.

Well he didn't have to wait long, because, by and by, along came Brer Rabbit, racing down the road until he spied the Tar-Baby.

And the Tar-Baby, she just sat there, she did and Brer Fox, he just lay low.

"Good morning!" said Brer Rabbit, said he, "nice weather this morning."

But the Tar-Baby, she didn't say anything and Brer Fox he lay low.

"How are you this morning?" said Brer Rabbit.

But the Tar-Baby, she stayed still and Brer Fox, he lay low.

"You're stuck up, that's what you are," said Brer Rabbit. "And I'm going to cure you of being stuck up, that's what I'm going to do."

Brer Fox, he sort of chuckled way down



in his tummy, he did, but the Tar-Baby didn't say anything.

"I'm going to teach you how to talk to respectable folks, if it's the last thing I do," said Brer Rabbit, said he. "If you don't take off that hat and say: 'How-do-you-do?' I'm going to bust you wide open."

But the Tar-Baby, she kept on saying nothing, till presently Brer Rabbit drew back his fist, he did, and — BLIP! — He punched the Tar-Baby on the side of the head.

But his fist stuck and he couldn't pull it loose. The tar held him fast.

"If you don't let me loose, I'll hit you again," said Brer Rabbit.

With that he brought round a punch with the other hand — and that hand stuck, too.

"Turn me loose before I really knock the stuffing out of you," said Brer Rabbit.

But the Tar-Baby, she didn't say anything. And Brer Fox he lay low.

Then Brer Rabbit really shouted out

that if the Tar-Baby didn't turn him loose, he would butt her with his head.

And he butted her. And his head got stuck.

And then Brer Fox strolled out, looking just as innocent as an old lady's pet canary.

"How do you do, Brer Rabbit?" said Brer Fox. "You look sort of stuck up this morning," said he.

And then he rolled on the ground and laughed and laughed.

Because, of course, Brer Fox had intended Brer Rabbit to get stuck on the Tar-Baby from the beginning.

"I expect you will be taking dinner with me today, sure enough, Brer Rabbit," laughed Brer Fox. "But I am the one who will be doing all the eating!"

Of course, he meant that he would make Brer Rabbit into a rabbit stew.

"You just stay there until I collect some brushwood," said Brer Fox, "and then I will make a fire to cook you on."

Well, Brer Rabbit thought mighty quickly and he said: "I don't care what you do with me, Brer Fox, just so long as you don't throw me into the briar patch."

But Brer Fox was busy planning and he said: "It's really too much trouble to light a fire. I will throw you into the river."

"Throw me into as many rivers as you like, but don't throw me into the briar patch, Brer Fox."

Then Brer Fox said, "But there aren't any rivers nearby here, so I think I'll tie you up in a sack and take you home."

"Tie me up in as many sacks as you

like, Brer Fox, just so long as you don't throw me into the briar patch."

Now Brer Fox began to think. "There must be something mighty horrid about briar patches if Brer Rabbit is so afraid of them. So, as I want to be horrid to Brer Rabbit, I will throw him into a briar patch."

So Brer Fox picked Brer Rabbit up by the hind legs and threw him right into the middle of a briar patch.

Of course, this was exactly what clever Brer Rabbit wanted.

He knew that in the briar patch were plenty of thorny branches that he could use as combs to clean his fur of all that tar.

Well, Brer Fox watched the briar patch and all the fluttering and scratching that was going on in there.

Then suddenly he heard someone calling him from way up on the hillside.

And there was Brer Rabbit, sitting there as cheekily as anything, just combing the last bits of tar from his fur.

"Rabbits are bred and born in briar patches, you know, Brer Fox," laughed Brer Rabbit. "The thorns that you don't like are the rabbits' friends. You were stupid to throw me into a briar patch."

And with that Brer Rabbit skipped away home.

And Brer Fox felt mighty silly — mighty silly indeed!

**There will be another Brer Rabbit story next week.**





## MORE FOUR-LEGGED ANIMALS THAT LAY EGGS



**Tuatara**



**Common Chameleon**



**Marine Iguana**



**Madagascar Gecko**



**Komodo Dragon**



**Echichinas**



# Ronnie Wrong and Richard Right



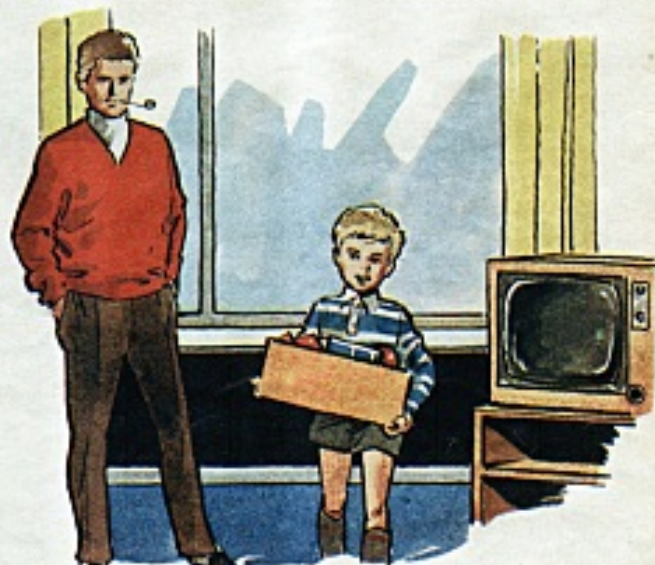
Ronnie Wrong's Mummy has a headache but Ronnie bangs his drum.



Richard Right sits quietly while his Mummy rests.



Ronnie's Daddy trips up over the toy engine Ronnie has left on the floor.



Richard puts his toys away after playing with them.



Ronnie comes in from the garden without taking off his wellington boots.



Richard leaves his muddy boots outside.



This story is a memory test. Read it carefully and then turn to page 16 and try to answer the questions about it.

## THE EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY PRESENT

It was Paul Marny's birthday and he was very happy. The sun was shining and his mother and father had taken him and his sister, Rose, out for a walk in the market-place.

"Let us buy some cream cakes for my party this afternoon," laughed Paul, pointing to a stall that was loaded with the biggest cream cakes he had ever seen.

Just then, a soldier who was passing on his horse caught sight of Paul's father, Captain Marny, and rode over to him. (Can you see the soldier on his horse in the big picture?)

"I have orders for you, Captain," he said. "You are to return to your regiment at once."

Poor Paul! When he heard this, he was very upset because he wanted his father to be at his party. He was so good at Hunt-the-slipper and Blind-man's-buff.

"Oh, *must* you go, Daddy?" cried Paul, and Captain Marny nodded.

"When the Emperor gives an order, we must all obey," he replied. Even Fluff and Snuff, their two dogs, seemed to understand how unhappy Paul was, for they stopped wagging their tails and licked his hand.

Just then there came the noise of cheering. "See — here comes the Emperor!" said Captain Marny and the Emperor of France came riding towards them with three officers.

Before his father could stop him, Paul ran towards the Emperor and caught hold of his stirrup.

"Oh, please don't send my Daddy away until after my birthday party," he begged.

The Emperor waved aside his three officers, who were about to move Paul aside.

"Leave the boy alone," he said with twinkling eyes. Then he said to Paul, "Tell me all about your party."

So Paul did. By now his father was standing beside him, looking up at the Emperor with troubled eyes.

When the Emperor had heard what Paul had to say, he smiled at Captain Marny.

"I know you, Captain Marny," he said. "You have fought bravely for me in many battles. I would like to give your little son a birthday present."

Paul spoke up again.

"The best birthday present you can give me, your Majesty," he said boldly, "is my father for my party."

The Emperor roared with laughter and Fluff and Snuff wagged their tails.

"It shall be so," he chuckled and he turned to one of his officers.

"Allow Captain Marny to rejoin his regiment tomorrow," he said. Then he touched his hat to Paul's mother and rode away with his three officers.

So Paul had a happy birthday party with all his friends, his sister, Rose, his mother and, best of all, his father, who laughed and romped with them like a little boy.

It was a very tired Paul Marny who went to bed that night.

"Thank you, your Majesty," was the last thing he said as he fell asleep.









# Dick Whittington



1. "Return again, Dick Whittington, thrice Lord Mayor of London." This is what the London bells had seemed to say but time went by and still Dick was only the kitchen-boy in a merchant's house.

2. One day the merchant said that he had bought a ship, which he was sending to far-off lands. "If any of you have things to sell, take them to the ship's captain and he will trade them for you," he said.



3. All the servants except Dick ran off excitedly. Alice, the merchant's daughter, looked at Dick and his cat. "Why don't you trade Puss?" she asked. But Dick was unwilling to lose Puss.



4. In the end, however, Alice persuaded Dick to change his mind. "I have a feeling you are doing the right thing," she said as Dick handed Puss over to the ship's captain.



5. After many weeks, the ship arrived at a distant land. The King of the country and his court were very pleased to see the captain and all the goods he had brought with him. The King invited the captain and his crew to dine with him.

6. No sooner, however, had they all sat down to eat than many rats ran out of their hiding places and scurried to and fro amongst the rich food. "We suffer from a great plague of rats," explained the King. "It is impossible for us to get rid of them."





7. Suddenly the captain thought of Dick's cat and sent a seaman back to the ship for Puss. The King had never seen a cat before. "What is it?" he asked the captain. "It's a cat, your Majesty," replied the captain, "and your troubles are over."



8. When the King saw how Puss chased away the rats, he could scarcely believe his eyes. "You must sell me the cat," he smiled and the captain agreed — but only for many, many pieces of gold. A few days later the captain set out for home.



9. Imagine Dick Whittington's surprise when the captain laid out before him all the gold pieces the King had given in exchange for the cat. The merchant advised Dick to buy himself a good education.



10. Dick followed his master's advice, worked hard and in time he became a partner in the merchant's business. Some time later he and Alice were married. And what do you think? Yes — he became Lord Mayor of London three times and lived happily ever after.





## BEAUTIFUL PICTURES

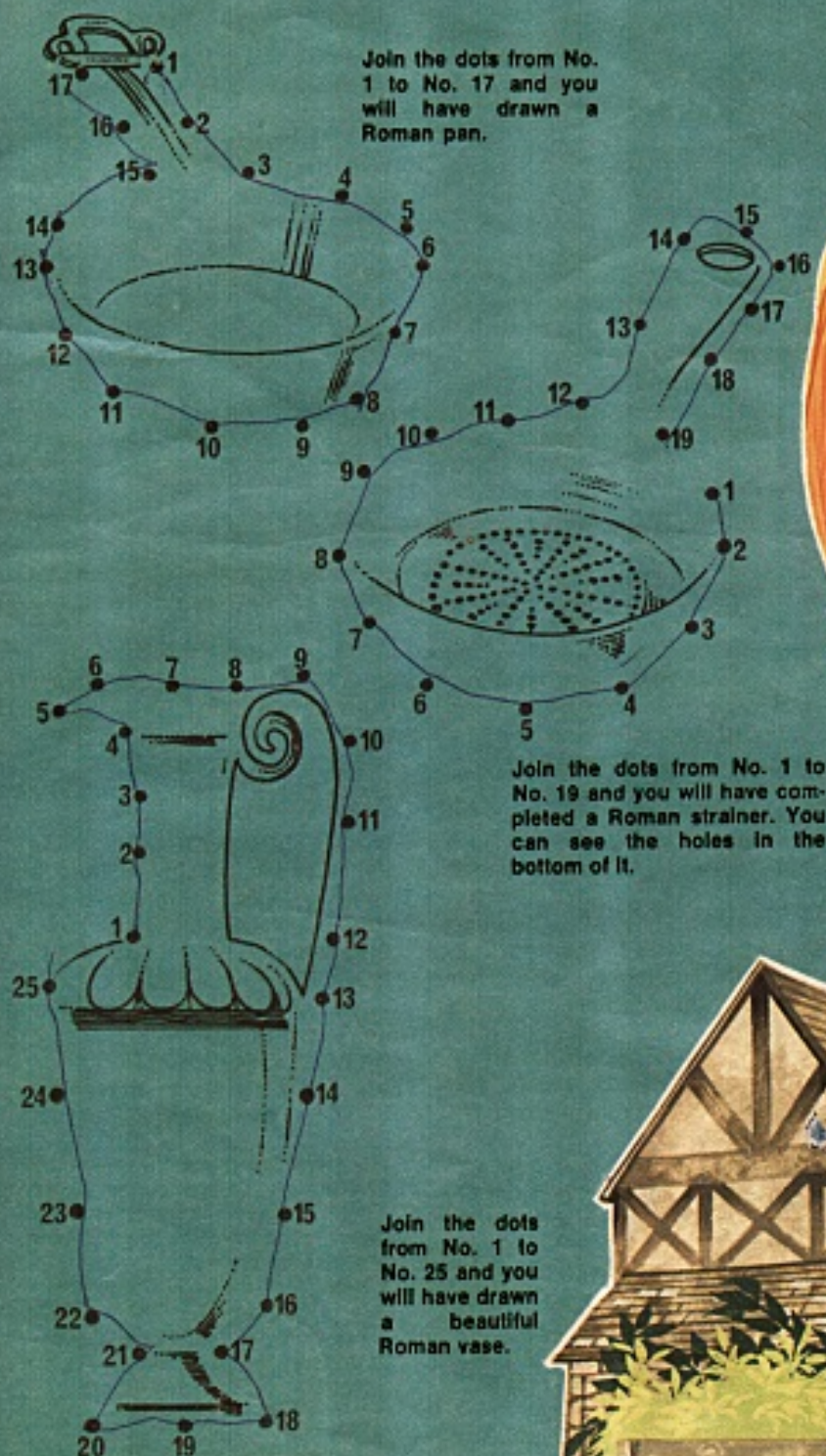
Here is another lovely picture for your scrapbooks. It was painted by an artist named William Huggins and it is printed here by permission of the Tate Gallery, London. It is called "Donkeys and Sheep in a Landscape". The donkey is a lowly animal. But remember he had one great day. Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.



# A Roman Lady

Not long ago, in "Once Upon a Time", there was a splendid picture of a Roman soldier. Now here is his wife. This is how the Roman ladies dressed themselves two thousand years ago.

Isn't it wonderful to think that as long ago as that, the Romans had central heating in their homes? They built such beautiful houses, too, and Roman ladies were very proud of their homes.







# The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse

This week, read how happy the Town Mouse is to be back in town.

By Barbara Hayes

Too-tle-toot-toot! Too-tle-toot-toot! Nigel Mouse sounded the hooter of his grand car.

BRRRM! BRRRM! ROOOOAAAAR!

Nigel Mouse started up the engine of his beautiful car and turned to drive up the main street of town.

Nigel Mouse was driving Stephanie the town mouse from her stay in the country.

"I know you always like me to make a lot of noise, when I am driving you in my grand car," he smiled at Stephanie, or Steve as he called her.

"I know you like the noise to make everyone turn and see that you are riding along in the *grandest* car in town."

But if Nigel thought Steve was going to be pleased with him, he was in for a disappointment.

"Nigel, you great big nitwit!" she gasped. "Stop making that noise at once!"

Stephanie opened the newspaper that fortunately she had with her and hid behind it, so that none of the passers-by could see her.

"Really Nigel! Sometimes I think you haven't the sense you were born with," gasped Stephanie. "Here I am, on my way back from a dreadful holiday in that dreary countryside. My fur looks frightful because I haven't been able to get to a decent hairdressers. I am wearing a dress that all my friends have seen at *least* twice before. And you — you *double dented dimwit* — have to sound your horn to make everyone *look* at me! "Anyone but a chinless chumster like you would have known that *this* was the time to keep *quiet* so that *no one* would *notice* me."

"Sorry, Steve!" said Nigel.

Then, to try to make up for being stupid, he called out to some friends who were passing:

"This isn't Steve with me, you know, chaps. This is quite a different young lady."

Steve was so furious that her newspaper shook with her rage.

"Now everyone will think that you

have found a new girl friend. And that makes me look pretty silly, doesn't it?"

So after that Nigel just kept his mouth shut.

"If I keep my mouth shut I can't put my foot in it," he thought to himself.

Anyway, at last Stephanie was home and, as she unpacked her case, she thought:

"Tomorrow I must make myself look nice again and as well as that I must stop all that gossip that must be flying about, because of that silly thing old turnip-head Nigel said about having a different young lady with him in the car."

"I know, I will go to the Beauty Parlour for Mice."

The next morning, Stephanie put on a grand coat and hat.

Then she slammed her front door, pitter-pattered down the front steps and scurried round to the famous and elegant Beauty Parlour.

It was marvellous there. The young lady assistants washed and brushed Stephanie's fur until it shone. Then they cleaned and painted her finger nails.

And all the while Mr. Clarence O'Tail, who owned the parlour, chatted with Stephanie, telling her that she was the prettiest of all his customers.

Just then Lady Gossip Chatterbox came into the beauty salon. Mr. Clarence O'Tail brought a chair for her at once.

"I hear that Nigel has a new girl friend," said Lady Gossip Chatterbox, who didn't believe in wasting time.

Her little eyes shone with pleasure. She was so delighted to be able to say something horrid to Stephanie, who was prettier, and what was worse, younger, than Lady Catterbox herself.

Stephanie gave a grand wave of her newly painted hand.

"Oh, you mean that girl he was

driving along yesterday. Oh, she was just someone up from the country. I asked Nigel to give her lift to town to please me."

And Stephanie thought to herself, "Well, that's the truth really. I am only just twisting it a little bit."

Then she went on: "Actually, Nigel is taking me for a ride in his grand car this afternoon."

And that afternoon Nigel did take Stephanie out.

"Now is the time to make sure that everyone is looking at me," smiled Stephanie. "I am looking my very best and wearing a new dress."

Too-tle-toot-toot went Nigel on his horn.

"Oh that isn't nearly loud enough," said Stephanie. "I know, pretend that your horn has got stuck, and sound it all the time just as loudly as it will hoot."

So Nigel put his hand on his horn and kept it hoot-HOOOOOOOOOT-HOOOOOOOOOTING — all along the road.

HOOOOOOOOOOOT!

Every single person in town turned to look.

HOOOOOOOOOOOT!

Every single person in town saw Stephanie in her new dress.

HOOOOOOOOOOOT!

Stephanie was very happy.

HOOOOOOOOOOOT!

"You are a good boy-friend, Nigel," said Stephanie.

HOOOOOOOOOOOT!

There will be another mouse story next week.

Here are the questions about the lovely story on the centre pages. Try to answer the questions and then re-read the story to see if your answers are correct.

1. What was the little boy's name?
2. Who told his father that he must return to his regiment?
3. What were the names of the two dogs?
4. How many officers were with the Emperor?
5. What was the last thing the little boy said as he fell asleep?







# Betty Blue-eyes



1. Once upon a time there lived a rich and lovely young maiden named Betty Blue, but because she had such beautiful blue eyes, everybody called her Betty Blue-Eyes. She lived near the sea and all the jolly sailor boys were in love with her and wanted to marry her.

2. One day Betty Blue-Eyes came running down the beach, towards two fishermen. "Can you row me out to yonder ship?" she asked. The fishermen smiled. "For you, Betty Blue-Eyes, we'll do anything," they said. Betty thanked them nicely and they rowed her to the ship.



3. As soon as the ship's Captain, whose name was Captain Samuel Bellow, saw her boarding the ship, he dashed down to the main deck. "I've come for the man I love," said Betty Blue-Eyes. Captain Bellow put his arm round her. "You mean me, of course, Betty," he smiled.



4. "No, I don't," replied Betty. "I mean Jack Tar, one of your seamen." Just then, Jack Tar appeared with three of his friends. "Hallo, Betty, my love," said he. "What are you doing here?" Betty took out a piece of paper. "I've paid a lot of money and bought you out of the Navy," she said. "Here's the receipt." The Captain was angry.







5. He was even angrier when Jack Tar began to take off his uniform jacket. "I'm a sailor no more," laughed Jack. But the Captain said, "This ship is sailing at once. You cannot leave — and neither can Betty." Then Betty smiled at Captain Bellow with her deep blue eyes.



6. "But Captain, dear Captain," she said. "You're my favourite sea-captain and I was hoping you would marry us." The Captain, who was really a kind-hearted man, could not resist Betty's blue eyes. So he married her to Jack Tar and allowed them to go ashore, where Jack bought himself a new suit.



7. While Jack was buying his new suit, Betty was buying a fine new house and there she and her handsome husband lived happily ever after. "When Captain Bellow comes home again, I think we should ask him to stay with us," said Jack.

8. But Captain Bellow was away for five long years. Jack and Betty had four children. And what do you think they called their eldest son? Why, Samuel Bellow Tar. When the Captain came home at last, he was pleased. "Whenever you are ashore, you must stay with us," said Betty. Wasn't that nice of her?







# *The* **WISE OLD OWL**

## **Knows all the answers**



1. Tell us, Wise Old Owl,  
can cats see in the dark?

"Yes, better than most animals which are kept as pets. If you look at the centre, or pupil, of a cat's eye in the day-time, you will see it is only a small slit, unlike the human pupil, which is round. At night time, the cat's pupils open up and enable it to see in the darkness."



2. How is ink made?

"A lot of inks are made from nut galls, which are growths found on oak trees. The galls are mixed with a dye and an iron salt. In red ink, the colour is sometimes made by using the powdered bodies of tiny animals, called cochineal. Other red ink is made from brazil-wood."



3. Tell us, Wise Old Owl, who first built a steamship?

"This is a difficult question to answer. It is said that a Spaniard named Blasco de Gary made a model steamboat 425 years ago. Several other men, much later, tried to build steamships. The most famous was Robert Fulton, an American, who built a steamship in 1807 that sailed 150 miles in 32 hours."



4. Who was the Black Prince?

"The Black Prince was the eldest son of the English king, Edward III. He fought in many wars and is known as the Black Prince because he was supposed to have worn black armour. Some historians think this name was given to him many years after he died, in 1376."



5. What is a four poster?

"A four poster is a kind of bed which was used in the olden days. It had four big posts, one at each corner. Heavy curtains were hung on rods between the posts. In those days, when rooms were cold and draughty, the curtains kept the bed warmer!"